

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Arizona Zone  
Entomology &  
Pathology

2500 S. Pineknoll Dr.  
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File Code: 3410  
Route To:

Date: October 3, 1997

Subject: 1997 Insect and Disease Aerial Detection Survey

To: Area Director  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Navajo Area Office  
Branch of Forestry  
P. O. Box 1060  
Gallup, NM 87305

The Arizona Zone of Entomology and Pathology conducted the insect and disease aerial detection survey for the Navajo Indian Reservation during September 2-4, 1997. The survey information sent from this office is digitized into electronic format and then plotted onto 1:100,000 scale, pre-printed maps. An electronic copy of the map is also available on request. If you have questions regarding the electronic copy or formatting, Steve Dudley can assist you. His number is (520) 556-2071.


A total of 1,945 acres of western pine beetle mortality was detected in the ponderosa pine type. This mortality was found in generally small pockets of 1 to 25 trees. Areas of heavy, concentrated mortality were detected near Fluted Rock and west of Sheep Springs.

Aspen defoliation, attributable to large aspen tortrix and Marssonina leaf blight, was detected on a total of 23 acres. All acreages were in the moderate category. Western spruce budworm defoliation was detected on 582 acres. Light defoliation was detected on 114 acres, moderate on 568 acres.

No true fir mortality was detected this year. Douglas-fir mortality was detected on 175 acres in the Chuska Mountains. This is being attributed to douglas-fir beetle.

The pinyon sawfly population near Canyon de Chelly seems to have peaked. Light defoliation was detected on 862 acres and moderate defoliation on 2,134 acres. No significant mortality appears to have occurred due to this insect in 1997. Ann Lynch of the Rocky Mountain Research Station and Mike Wagner of NAU will continue researching this problem. The Arizona Zone will also continue to monitor the area, however, it appears that the population is collapsing.

If you have questions concerning this letter and survey, I can be reached at  
(520) 556-2072.

 acting for

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Entomologist  
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